

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in the Office Interview of May 13, 2002. As discussed and agreed to in the Interview, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 (renumbered as per the Office Action) is allowable over the references of record in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that the Abu-Isa et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,869,554) does not disclose at least the feature of Applicant's invention as claimed in claim 15 of different prestresses in different sections of the textile structure.

Applicant has amended claim 15, and the other claims in the application, to conform to current U.S. practice, as required by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant has also renumbered the claims as per the Office Action and has, by amendment, amended the dependencies of the claims to correctly refer to the renumbered claims. Thus, as was also agreed to in the Interview, any subsequent Office Action, if required, will be a non-Final Action in view of the claim amendments made and the reasons for those claim amendments.

Applicant respectfully requests reentry of renumbered dependent claims 29-33 in the application since they depend from believed to be allowable generic independent claim 15. Applicant has also added new dependent claims 42-43 and respectfully submits that these new claims are allowable since they also depend from generic claim 15. Applicant has canceled renumbered claims 34-41 as being directed to a non-elected invention.

In this Amendment, Applicant has also provided a substitute specification and an Abstract of the Disclosure. Applicant respectfully notes that the disclosure at page 8, line 18, where the reference character "s" appears is not an error. The reference character s correctly refers to Figure 5 and is shown in Figure 5, where the distance associated with this reference character is shown. Applicant respectfully submits that the substitute specification contains no new matter.

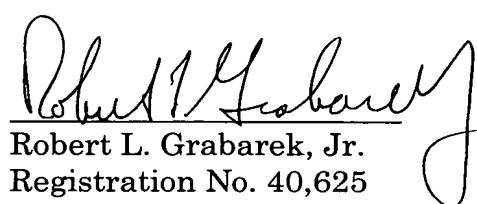
Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance with claims 15-33 and 42-43 being allowable. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

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If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 1752/49096).

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert L. Grabarek, Jr.
Registration No. 40,625


Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
DDE/RLG/lw
CAM No.: 37128.003

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend the following claims:

15. (Amended) A lounge [Lounge] chair with a frame having longitudinal and transverse bars and with spring elements held by the frame, said spring elements being in the form of an elastic textile structure held under prestress between the longitudinal bars and forming a supporting surface covering the frame [for mattresses, cushion coverings or the like,] wherein the textile structure is made [of knitting or woven fabric] out of synthetic threads, and wherein [the] a first prestress of the textile structure at a right [angles] angle to the longitudinal bars in a first section is[, in at least one of several sections running lengthways of the longitudinal bars,] different from [the] a second prestress of the textile structure at a right angle to the longitudinal bars in a second section [in the other sections].

16. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein outer contours of the textile structure are held under prestress at the longitudinal bars and at the transverse bars.

17. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein supports are provided beneath the textile structure.

18. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [18] 17, wherein the supports are attached to rails which are movable in a direction of the longitudinal bars.

19. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein cushions [in the form of lordosis supports or knee joints] can be placed on the textile structure.

20. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [17] 16, wherein cushions [in the form of lordosis supports or knee joints] can be placed on the textile structure.

21. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [18] 17, wherein cushions [in the form of lordosis supports or knee joints] can be placed on the textile structure.

22. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [19] 18, wherein cushions [in the form of lordosis supports or knee joints] can be placed on the textile structure.

23. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein the longitudinal bars are designed to be foldable and form articulated axles for the surface for lying.

24. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [17] 16, wherein the longitudinal bars are designed to be foldable and form articulated axles for the surface for lying.

25. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [18] 17, wherein the longitudinal bars are designed to be foldable and form articulated axles for the surface for lying.

26. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [19] 18, wherein the longitudinal bars are designed to be foldable and form articulated axles for the surface for lying.

27. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [20] 19, wherein the longitudinal bars are designed to be foldable and form articulated axles for the surface for lying.

28. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein the [knitting or woven fabric] synthetic threads are [is made of] polyester threads with a 25% [elastometer] elastomer polyester content.

29. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [16] 15, wherein the textile structure is made up of two structures [lying at a distance one below the other] wherein one of the two structures lies at a distance below the other of the two structures.

30. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [30] 29, wherein each of the textile structures is tightly held [with their edges] by a respective edge to the longitudinal and transverse bars.

31. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [30] 29, wherein the distance between the two textile structures is predetermined in such a way that at least a part of [the surfaces] a surface of [the textile structure] one of the two structures rests on [each other] at least a part of a surface of the other of the two structures when there is a load.

32. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [30] 29, wherein the textile structure is designed as a tube pulled over rods.

33. (Amended) Lounge chair according to Claim [33] 32, wherein the rods are mounted such that they can be rotated and are fastened to the longitudinal bars.